

Message Text

PAGE 01 KINGST 00054 051550Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O 051540Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3680

S E C R E T KINGSTON 0054

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, PINT, JM

SUBJ: BAUXITE NEGOTIATIONS - SITREP 1

1. PRIME MINISTER MANLEY HAS ASKED TO SEE ME AT 9:30 AM ON MONDAY. MESSAGE WAS PASSED TO ROBERT MASON, PM'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT, WHO INDICATED THAT PM WISHED TO DISCUSS HIS APPROACH AND THAT OF HIS GOVT TO THE FORTHCOMING BAUXITE NEGOTIATIONS. MASON ALSO INDICATED THAT PM MAY ASK IF WE COULD ACT AS A SECURE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION PERMITTING HIM TO MAKE AN INITIAL CONTACT WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN THE US OF ALUMINUM COMPANIES HAVING INTERESTS IN JAMAICA.

2. WHILE US GOVT SHOULD NOT BECOME A PARTY TO NEGOTIATIONS PASSING A MESSAGE FOR THE PM AT THIS STAGE MIGHT DO MUCH TO ESTABLISH A COOPERATIVE ATMOSPHERE. HENCE UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE I WILL INFORM HIM THAT WE WILL PASS SUCH A MESSAGE SHOULD HE ASK ME TO DO SO.

3. I WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ANY OTHER POINTS DEPT MAY WISH TO MAKE AT THIS STAGE. OTHERWISE I INTEND TO SIMPLY LISTEN OR ASK QUESTIONS FOR CLARIFICATION.

4. WASHBURN OF ALCOA CALLED LAST NIGHT TO INFORM ME THAT HE AND LOCAL MANAGER OF ALCAN HAD CALLED TO SEEK AN APPOINTMENT WITH MALEY FOR NEXT TUESDAY TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION, AND HAD BEEN FLATLY REFUSED. WASHBURN OPINED THAT REASON FOR REFUSAL WAS A DESIRE FOR A CONFRONTATION WITH THE COMPANIES. GIVEN MY SUBSEQUENT
SECRET

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CONVERSATION WITH MASON, HOWEVER, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT MANLEY WISHES TO DEAL WITH SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF PARENT COMPANIES RATHER THAN LOCAL MANAGERS. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT MANLEY REALLY HAS NOTHING TO SAY TO COMPANIES AT THIS STAGE BEYOND FACT

THAT HE INTENDS TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS, SINCE CONVERSATIONS OVER
THE PAST WEEK HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT GOJ IS STILL SOME DISTANCE
FROM HAVING AN AGREED UPON NEGOTIATING POSITION.
HEWITT

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 27 JUL 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BAUXITE, POLITICAL SITUATION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JAN 1974
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KINGST00054
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750001-1763
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740174/abbrzavu.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 SEP 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <15-Nov-2002 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BAUXITE NEGOTIATIONS - SITREP 1
TAGS: EMIN, PINT, US, JM
To: STATE NIACT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005